



THE DANCE VILLAGE

A project of the
ODISSI DANCE CENTRE TRUST

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

FOUNDER
Protima Gauri

TRUSTEES
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William Bissell

MANAGING TRUSTEE
Lynne Fernandez

It gives me great pleasure to write this testimonial for Parivarthan Counselling, Training and Research Centre. Our Dance Village, Nrityagram has been associated with this Counselling Centre since it was started in August 1995.

The founders of Parivarthan, Saroj and Carlos Welch, who pioneered in setting up the first professional counselling service by trained counsellors, were mentors to Protima Bedi who started Nrityagram 1990 and were a great support to her in those early days, as she pioneered in setting up a facility where young dancers could follow the age old tradition of living and studying dance with their gurus (teachers). Nrityagram also taught dance to the children in the villages around their Centre.

One of Parivarthan's first Outreach Services was offered at Nrityagram in 1995/96. A counsellor would be available at our Dance Village, once a week to help the young dancers, many of who had left their homes for the first time, to help them cope with the transition of being away from their families and living in a community. Though this service was not easy to provide, as our Dance Village is located 35 kms away from the city of Bangalore and public transport was almost non-existent, the Parivarthan counsellor rarely missed a day.

The Nrityagram Dance Ensemble performed a specially choreographed show in November 1998, to help Parivarthan raise funds to continue their services in counselling and training and it was a resounding success, both by way of fund-raising as well as to spread awareness of a Centre such as Parivarthan in a high-stress city like Bangalore.

Parivarthan has grown since those days of yore, with many, many more people accessing their services in counselling and training as they have continued to keep 'quality' as their watchword in all their endeavours.

If you require any clarifications or further information, I would be happy to provide it.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Fernandez
Managing Trustee

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